

Serial No. 10/617,297

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please amend the paragraph on page 14, lines 20-30, as follows:

In cases where the relationship $VP < VM$ is established, that is, the output current I_o is smaller than the limited current I_l , the output voltage of the operational amplifier 22 becomes 0 V, thus the transistor Q13 ~~being~~ is turned off. Hence the foregoing constant voltage control makes the output voltage V_o ~~is raised~~ rise upward ~~to~~ to the target voltage. In contrast, when the relationship of $VP > VM$ is realized, the output voltage of the operational amplifier rises, whereby the transistor Q13 turns ~~eff~~ on and the transistors Q12 and Q11 turn off. The output current I_o is therefore forced to decrease. Through control, the output current I_o is limited up to the limited current I_l , and an equilibrium state of $VP = VM$ is established.

Please amend the paragraph from page 17, line 23, through page 18, line 6, as follows:

In this way, the power supply ~~circuits~~ circuit 11 according to the present embodiment is provided with the current limiter 19, which is able to ~~stepwise generate~~ a limited value of the output current I_o in a stepwise fashion as the time elapses, in response to the ~~operation~~ ~~concerning~~ rising of the output voltage V_o ~~made to rise~~ (i.e., the voltage tracking control is started or the battery voltage V_B is applied to the input terminal 12 under the voltage tracking control). Thus, ~~with~~ the output current I_o is controlled so as to increase gradually as the time elapses. This increase of the output current I_o in a controlled manner will cause the output voltage V_o to increase stepwise, with the result that an overshoot of the output voltage V_o can be reduced. Accordingly, the overshoot can be suppressed, while still reducing the capacitance of the capacitor C12 connected to the output terminal. Additionally, a chip type of capacitor can be used as the capacitor C12, whereby the power supply circuit 11 can be minimized in size and manufacturing cost of the circuit can be lessened.